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THE  
SECOND BIENNIAL REPORT  
OF THE  
NORTH CAROLINA HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
1906-1908

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RALEIGH  
E. M. UZZELL & CO., STATE PRINTERS AND BINDERS  
1909

## THE NORTH CAROLINA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

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J. BRYAN GRIMES, CHAIRMAN.

W. J. PEELE,

D. H. HILL,

THOMAS W. BLOUNT,

M. C. S. NOBLE.

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R. D. W. CONNOR, SECRETARY,

RALEIGH.

# REPORT OF THE NORTH CAROLINA HISTORICAL COMMISSION.

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*To His Excellency, GOVERNOR ROBERT B. GLENN:*

For the information of your Excellency and of the General Assembly, we beg to submit a brief report of the creation, organization and work of the North Carolina Historical Commission during the past two years.

## CREATION AND ORGANIZATION.

The North Carolina Historical Commission was created by act of the General Assembly of 1903 (chapter 767 of the Public Laws of 1903). Under the provisions of this act the Governor was to appoint a commission of five, who were to serve for a term of two years, without salary, per diem or mileage. The act declared it to be their duty "to have collected from the files of old newspapers, from court records, church records and elsewhere" valuable documents pertaining to the history of North Carolina, "to have such documents edited and published by the State Printer as other public printing, and distributed by the State Librarian under the direction of the commission." The commission was authorized "to expend a sum not exceeding \$500 annually in the collection and transcription of documents." Under this act Governor Aycock appointed W. J. Peele, of Raleigh; J. D. Hufham, of Henderson; F. A. Sondley, of Asheville; Richard Dillard, of Edenton, and R. D. W. Connor, of Wilmington. The fact that the members of the commission lived in widely separated parts of the State, and the fact that the law expressly forbade the payment of their expenses, made it difficult for them to attend properly to their duties. Efficient work was, accordingly, impossible, and your Excellency, realizing this fact, thought it wise, in 1905, to appoint on the commission persons residing nearer to each other. Accordingly, the following were appointed: W. J. Peele, of Raleigh; J. Bryan Grimes, of Raleigh; Thomas W. Blount, of Roper; Charles L. Raper, of Chapel Hill, and R. D. W. Connor, of Raleigh. More and better work was accomplished than before. It soon became evident, however, that if the commission was to do the work expected of it, a different and more effective organization was necessary. In 1907, therefore, the General Assembly amended the act of 1903, enlarged the powers and increased the duties of the commission. (Chapter 714 of the Public Laws of 1907.) By the provisions of this act the members of the commission are appointed for terms of two, four and six years, their successors to serve for six years. They receive no salary or per diem, but are "allowed their actual expenses when attending to their official duties." The appropriation was increased to \$5,000 annually, and the commission was authorized to employ a



secretary and to equip offices for the filing and preservation of historical documents. Under the provisions of this act your Excellency appointed the following persons, who compose the commission as now constituted: J. Bryan Grimes, of Raleigh; W. J. Peele, of Raleigh; Thomas W. Blount, of Roper; M. C. S. Noble, of Chapel Hill, and D. H. Hill, of Raleigh. The commission, thus constituted, met in the office of the Secretary of State, at Raleigh, May 20, 1907, and organized by the election of J. Bryan Grimes, chairman, and R. D. W. Connor, secretary. Offices in the State Capitol were assigned to the commission, and the secretary was instructed to secure the necessary equipment. The commission, thus constituted and thus equipped, has been at work but little more than one year, but we believe that the following report will justify the creation of this agency for the preservation of the history of our State.

### POWERS AND DUTIES.

The duties of the commission are as follows:

(1) To have collected from the files of old newspapers, court records, church records, private collections and elsewhere, historical data pertaining to the history of North Carolina and the territory included therein from the earliest times.

(2) To have such material properly edited, published by the State Printer as other State printing, and distributed under the direction of the commission.

(3) To care for the proper marking and preservation of battlefields, houses and other places celebrated in the history of the State.

(4) To diffuse knowledge in reference to the history and resources of North Carolina.

(5) To encourage the study of the history of North Carolina in the schools of the State, and to stimulate and encourage historical investigation and research among the people of the State.

(6) To make a biennial report of its receipts and disbursements, its work and needs to the Governor, to be by him transmitted to the General Assembly.

The powers of the commission are as follows:

(1) To adopt a seal for use in official business.

(2) To adopt rules for its own government not inconsistent with the provisions of the law.


(3) To fix a reasonable price for its publications and to devote the revenue arising from such sales to extending the work of the commission.

(4) To employ a secretary.

(5) To control the expenditure of such funds as may be appropriated for its maintenance.

How these duties have been executed and these powers used it is the purpose of this report to show.





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PRESENT CONDITION OF EXECUTIVE FILES.

## COLLECTION AND PRESERVATION OF HISTORICAL SOURCES.

## PUBLIC ARCHIVES.

The first and most important duty imposed on the commission is "to have collected from the files of old newspapers, court records, church records, private collections and elsewhere, historical data pertaining to the history of North Carolina and the territory included therein from the earliest times."

The most important, as it is the largest, collection of such documents in existence is to be found in the public archives of the State, in the Capitol and elsewhere in Raleigh. Few people realize the richness of these archives in historical material. This material dates from the close of the seventeenth century to the present day, covers more than two hundred years of our history and includes an immense collection of documents and manuscripts absolutely essential to the elucidation of the history of the State and of great importance in the elucidation of the history of the nation. The manner, however, in which they have been kept is anything but creditable to our intelligence and patriotism. Thousands of manuscripts, records and other documents are stuffed away in dark pigeonholes, in boxes and corners, without order or system, are tossed about from place to place with an utter indifference to their value, or are thrown helter-skelter here and there, in leaky attics in various parts of the city.

The creation of the North Carolina Historical Commission will put an end, partially, to this condition. The first care of the commission has been to collect these records and documents, to file them systematically and to preserve them from destruction. Much time has been devoted to this work during the past year, and, though it does not show for much in a report, it has required no little attention, labor and thought, and is by far the most important work yet done by the commission. We cannot say that we have made more than a beginning, for the task is large; it requires time and patience, and even years must elapse before it is completed. We say that the creation of the commission will put an end, *partially*, to the condition above described. The room at the disposal of the commission is much too small for the work to be done. Like all the other departments of the State Government, the commission needs room for its expanding activities, and until this room is provided in some way the work of the commission will be much too restricted for the field to be covered.

For the present the commission has equipped a room on the third floor of the east wing of the Capitol. Steel roller shelves for large bound volumes and steel filing cases for loose manuscripts have been placed there. The bound volumes fill 669 roller shelves, and there are many others for which there is no room. They include all jour-

nals of both houses of the General Assembly since 1777 and some prior to that date, the journals of conventions, the journals of the Board of Internal Improvements, the journals of the Council of State, the letter books of the Governors, the records of our troops in the War Between the States, the reports of the Land Frauds Commission, numerous volumes of wills and numerous volumes of miscellaneous documents. The loose manuscripts include the correspondence of the Executive Department from the administration of Governor Caswell, in 1777, and numerous files of miscellaneous manuscripts which it would be too tedious to enumerate here.

#### NEWSPAPER FILES.

The commission has also made some valuable collections from other sources than the public archives. Newspaper files of the Colonial and Revolutionary periods in libraries in Charleston (S. C.), Wilmington, Richmond and Boston have been searched for North Carolina data. These files include *The Boston Evening Post*, 1769-1770; *The Virginia Gazette*, 1776; *The South Carolina Gazette*, 1732-1775; *The South Carolina Gazette and Country Journal*, 1765-1775, and *The South Carolina and American General Gazette*, 1766-1775. In the absence of North Carolina newspapers of the Colonial period, these papers throw interesting light on our history.

#### THE "HAYES" COLLECTION.

At Edenton, through the courtesy of Mr. John G. Wood, the commission has been permitted to have copied valuable letters and documents in the Samuel Johnston collection in the library at "Hayes," formerly the residence of Governor Samuel Johnston, now owned by Mr. Wood. This collection includes letters of Hooper, Hewes, Johnston, Iredell and other leaders of the Revolution in North Carolina, which have never been published.

#### THE DARTMOUTH COLLECTION.

Through the agency of the well-known firm of B. F. Stevens and Brown, of London, the commission has secured permission from the present Lord Dartmouth to have copied such of the private papers of Lord Dartmouth, Secretary of State for the Colonies, in 1772, as relate to North Carolina. Through this means a few interesting documents throwing light on our Colonial history have been secured.

#### THE SWAIN COLLECTION.

The North Carolina Historical Society at the University of North Carolina has placed at the disposal of the commission, for copying, the large and valuable collection made by Governor David L. Swain and preserved in the archives of the society.



## PRIVATE COLLECTIONS.

Three private collections of no little interest and value have been secured and placed among the collections of the commission. These are the letters and papers of John H. Bryan, member of Congress from North Carolina, 1825 to 1829; the letters and papers of Calvin H. Wiley, first superintendent of common schools in North Carolina, 1852 to 1865, and the correspondence of Jonathan Worth, State Treasurer of North Carolina, 1863 to 1865, and Governor of North Carolina, 1865 to 1868.

## COPIES OF PUBLIC DOCUMENTS.

The journals of the Board of Internal Improvements and the letter books of the following governors have been copied, preparatory to publication:

Richard Dobbs Speight.....	1792-1795
Samuel Ashe.....	1795-1798
William R. Davie.....	1798-1799
Benjamin Williams.....	1799-1802, 1807-1808
James Turner.....	1802-1805
Nathaniel Alexander.....	1805-1807
David Stone.....	1808-1810
William Hawkins.....	1811-1814
William Miller.....	1814-1817
William A. Graham.....	1845-1849

## PUBLICATIONS.

The law requires the commission "to have such material properly edited, published by the State Printer as other State printing, and distributed under the direction of the commission." Before this work can be done intelligently, the work above outlined must be done. The policy of the commission, therefore, is to collect, to file and to preserve before printing. Nevertheless, some printing has been done.

## THE BEGINNINGS OF ENGLISH-AMERICA.

Section 2 of chapter 714 of the Public Laws of 1907 especially charges the commission "with the duty of co-operating with the commission appointed by the Governor to make an exhibit at the Jamestown Exposition in making at said exposition an historical exhibit illustrating the history of North Carolina from the earliest times." In accordance with this provision, the commission instructed the secretary to prepare a pamphlet giving an account of the first English settlements in America, at Roanoke Island, North Carolina, which should be a part of the State's exhibit. A pamphlet was accordingly prepared, entitled "The Beginnings of English-America: Sir Walter Raleigh's Settlements on Roanoke Island, 1584-1587," 39 pages, illustrated with cuts of the DeBry engravings of John White's paintings of Indian life.

## BULLETIN No. 1.

Bulletin No. 1 of the publications of the North Carolina Historical Commission is "The North Carolina Historical Commission: Creation and Organization, Duties and Powers, Plans and Purposes." It is a pamphlet of 18 pages, explanatory of the work and the plans of the commission.

## BULLETIN No. 2.

Bulletin No. 2 of the publications of the North Carolina Historical Commission is "The North Carolina Historical Exhibit at the Jamestown Exposition," a history and description of this exhibit, prepared by one of the custodians, Miss Mary Hilliard Hinton.

LITERARY AND HISTORICAL ACTIVITIES IN NORTH CAROLINA,  
1900-1905.

The publications of the North Carolina Historical Commission, Vol. I, is entitled "Literary and Historical Activities in North Carolina, 1900-1905." It is a volume of 623 pages, including some of the most notable addresses and papers produced in the State within the period specified, together with reviews of the literary and historical activities during that period. Of especial interest and value is the report of the committee appointed by the State Literary and Historical Association to reply to the statements of Judge George L. Christian, of Virginia, questioning the claim of North Carolina as to her record in the War Between the States. The volume was compiled and edited by W. J. Peele, assisted by E. P. Moses and Clarence H. Poe. Though issued within the past year, it was projected at the first meeting of the commission, November 20, 1903, before the reorganization under the present plan, and should have been issued three years ago. Properly, it does not form part of the work of the commission for the period covered by this report.

## PRESERVATION OF HISTORICAL LOCALITIES.

The third duty with which the commission is charged is "to care for the proper marking and preservation of battlefields, houses and other places celebrated in the history of North Carolina." The commission believes quite as much in the brush and chisel as in the pen as implements of history writing.

## PAINTINGS OF ROANOKE ISLAND.

In fulfilling the duty imposed by this clause the commission has enabled Mr. Jacques Busbee, one of our native artists of well-earned reputation, to spend some months on the banks of eastern North Carolina studying the scenes of the first English Colony in America. His studies have resulted in a series of paintings showing these historic spots as they appear to-day. These paintings formed part of the North Carolina history exhibit at the Jamestown Exposition, and are now on exhibition in the Hall of History. The commission ex-



PRESENT CONDITION OF LEGISLATIVE FILES, 1777-1907.





pects that this preliminary work will result ultimately in a painting of the landing of the first English settlers in America, of the first Christian baptism by Englishmen within the present boundaries of the United States, or of some other scene connected with that important episode in American history.

#### BUST OF WILLIAM A. GRAHAM.

In the rotunda of the State Capitol are eight niches, designed to hold the busts of eight of the eminent sons of the State whose services entitle them to such recognition. These niches were completed nearly three-quarters of a century ago, yet they are as empty to-day as they were on the day they were finished. The North Carolina Historical Commission believes that the State has produced eminent sons whose services in peace and in war entitle them to be thus honored, and the commission, therefore, will make it an especial object to fill these niches with handsome busts of distinguished North Carolinians. A contract has accordingly been placed with Frederick W. Ruckstuhl, a distinguished sculptor of New York City, for a marble bust of William A. Graham, eminent as legislator, Governor, Secretary of the Navy, Senator, statesman and patriot. The artist has completed his model and is now in Paris, where the bust is to be carved. After being exhibited in the Paris Salon in the spring of 1909, it will be delivered to the Historical Commission in October and will be set up in the State Capitol with suitable ceremonies.

#### TO DIFFUSE INFORMATION ABOUT NORTH CAROLINA.

It is made the duty of the commission to "diffuse knowledge in reference to the history and resources of North Carolina." It would prove too tedious to undertake to give in detail an account of how the commission has performed this duty. We beg to say only that the creation of such an agency has been welcomed throughout the United States by students of our history and resources. Many requests for such information have come from all parts of the country, which the commission has answered as fully, completely and accurately as possible. This phase of the work will, of course, grow in quantity and importance with time.

#### TO ENCOURAGE THE STUDY OF NORTH CAROLINA HISTORY.

The commission is "to encourage the study of North Carolina history in the schools of the State and to stimulate and encourage historical investigation and research among the people of the State."

##### HISTORY IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

The school law requires that the history of North Carolina shall be taught in the public schools of the State. The recent publication and adoption of a suitable text-book makes this possible. The more advanced pupils, however, and especially those in the high schools, should be led to extend their studies beyond the covers of the text-

books. The commission expects to co-operate with the teachers of the State in this work by furnishing such material as may be necessary for it to be done intelligently. Leaflets giving contemporary accounts of great events, the reprints of important historical documents, such as may be used in the class rooms, will be issued from time to time and distributed to those teachers who apply for them.

A copy of the "Beginnings of English-America" and a copy of "The Literary and Historical Activities in North Carolina, 1900-1905," have been placed in every rural library in the State. These libraries now number about 2,000.

#### NORTH CAROLINA DAY.

The secretary of the commission, at the request of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, prepared the "Program of Exercises for North Carolina Day," which the schools of the State will celebrate December 18. The program is devoted to a study of the German settlements in North Carolina.

#### HISTORICAL AND PATRIOTIC SOCIETIES.

In discharging the duty imposed upon the commission to stimulate and encourage historical investigation and research among the people of the State, the commission has endeavored to secure reports from the various historical and patriotic societies of the State of their activities during the past year. All of these societies did not respond, but many of them did, and their reports are here summarized, because they show that a fine spirit pervades our people, that they are becoming alive to their duty toward the past, and that they are really accomplishing much to preserve and popularize our history.

#### COLONIAL DAMES.

The North Carolina Society of the Colonial Dames of America during the past year has made an extensive investigation to locate places of historic interest in North Carolina which are unmarked in any way, and therefore are slowly but surely passing into oblivion. The result of the society's investigation has been embodied in a report by the president to the national council of the society. Although this report is confined to the Colonial period of our history, and makes no claim to being complete, it shows that there are seventy-eight spots, famed for historic events of the Colonial period, which are not marked in any way. They are thus subdivided: nine localities famed for incidents connected with the earliest explorations and settlements in North Carolina; ten sites of Colonial forts; three Colonial battlegrounds; ten sites of Colonial schools and churches; four localities famed for incidents connected with the Regulators; twenty-five sites of famous Colonial houses, and seventeen burial places of eminent Colonial characters. The Colonial Dames call attention to these unmarked spots in order that they may be preserved from neglect and oblivion.

### SONS OF THE REVOLUTION.

The Sons of the Revolution have entered upon an important phase of historical activities in the collection of portraits of historic persons. Already the society has presented to the Supreme Court Library oil portraits of James Iredell and Alfred Moore, Associate Justices of the Supreme Court of the United States, and to the executive office a portrait of Samuel Johnston, three times elected Governor of North Carolina and our first Senator in the Senate of the United States. During the past year the society secured a portrait of Alexander Martin, distinguished as a soldier of the Revolution and five times elected Governor of the State. This portrait was presented to the executive office on November 16th.

### DAUGHTERS OF THE REVOLUTION.

The Daughters of the Revolution have placed a case in the Hall of History, in which they are placing relics of the Revolutionary period. They have endeavored to stimulate interest in the history of North Carolina in the schools of the State by offering medals in certain schools for the best essays dealing with phases of our history. The most notable service rendered by the society is the continued publication of *The North Carolina Booklet*. This is the only periodical in North Carolina devoted exclusively to the history of the State and it is gratifying to know that it has met with success, not only as affording a medium for the development of historical talent in the State, but also financially. Enough has been realized from the publication to enable the Daughters of the Revolution to carry into execution the purpose for which *The Booklet* was established; that is, the erection of a memorial to the women of the Edenton Tea Party. This memorial was unveiled with suitable ceremonials in the State Capitol on the 24th of October.

### GUILFORD BATTLEGROUND COMPANY.

The work of the Guilford Battleground Company in converting that historic battleground from an old field into a beautiful historic park is too well known to need comment. From the president, whose unselfish labors deserve the applause of every patriotic American, from New England to the Gulf of Mexico, comes the following report of the past year's work:

"Our annual celebration of July 4th was held, as usual, most successfully, but the speeches delivered by Bishop Rondthaler and others have not yet been published in pamphlet form because of failure to receive copies of the same. I regret this much. An unusual amount of plowing, some seeding to grass and manuring, as the patriotic and liberal have enabled us to do, and the general necessary care of the ground have been made. Our purpose is to spend all the money possible in permanent improvements on the grounds, especially in the erection of memorials to Revolutionary characters. We have se-

cured octagon granite blocks sufficient to complete a monument begun to the cavalry arm of the service about thirty feet in height. As the preservation of our Revolutionary battlefields and perhaps other historic spots have proven not only "means," but also sources whence interest in our beloved State's history has gone out, it was deemed appropriate that a neat memorial to Clio, the Muse of History, as she sits and repeats to the populace, should head the North Carolina row at the battleground. This memorial is as durable as the hills and, as competent judges think, and I certainly think, an honor to the State and very beautiful.

"This report is written with my own hand, as I have no stenographer and never had one and am unable, or at least unwilling, to employ one, as I think the money can be applied more profitably from our limited means. God bless the North Carolina Historical Commission and all other like associations and individuals historically disposed."

This report was signed by Joseph M. Morehead.

#### HISTORY EXHIBIT AT THE JAMESTOWN EXPOSITION.

Three patriotic organizations to whose joint efforts the State owes the history exhibit made at the Jamestown Exposition are the Daughters of the Revolution, the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Wachovia Historical Society. It would be impossible in this brief report to convey an idea of the extent and character of that exhibit. We may say, without exaggeration, that of all the various exhibits made by the State or by individuals none reflected more credit on North Carolina or received more attention from visitors than the history exhibit. A full report of the exhibit has been prepared by Miss Hinton, one of the custodians, which the Historical Commission printed as one of its bulletins. We beg to quote one or two paragraphs from that report:

"Nothing has shown so forcibly this historical awakening in the Old North State as the exhibits she placed in the History Building at Jamestown. This was made with the people's money, by the people and for the people. It is, indeed, gratifying to know that she was creditably represented at this most interesting exposition. \* \* \* where history was given a place never before accorded in the annals of America. \* \* \* Too much praise cannot be given Mrs. Lindsay Patterson, vice-president general of the Daughters of the American Revolution, who first planned and arranged this exhibit. The Jamestown Commission for North Carolina appropriated as much money as could be spared for this object, which was not a large sum. This was supplemented by a small amount from the State Historical Commission. Mrs. Patterson was assisted by Miss Rebecca Schenck, of Greensboro, and Miss Mary Hilliard Hinton, of Raleigh, who gave months of arduous toil to this patriotic cause.



"The Wachovia Historical Society deserves special recognition, for it was this remarkable organization that responded primarily to the appeal for aid from patriotic Carolinians. It is the oldest society of the kind in the State, and has set an example worthy of emulation. Wachovia's exhibit revealed the life of the people, their industries, household utensils, implements of war and peace, accomplishments, comforts and literature. \* \* \* The entire history of these thrifty, religious, peace-abiding citizens, that have ever remained a distinct colony, affords unusual opportunity to the student. \* \* \* From the headquarters of the society have gone forth to previous expositions a few treasures, but never before has so large a collection been allowed to leave Salem. \* \* \*

"What has been the result of all these months of wearing toil, ceaseless responsibility, personal discomforts from extreme heat and cold, the risk of losing precious heirlooms which could never be replaced, and the expenditure of money? Did it pay?

"The compensation was more than adequate. Here are some of the rewards of a year's labor: When the awards of merit were bestowed, North Carolina won the silver medal, together with New York and the church exhibits. Surely we were in goodly and pious company. More visitors sought the North Carolina exhibit than any other in the History Building, while numbers came just for a glimpse of that alone. Great pains were taken by the custodians in charge to show and explain all things. During those strenuous days of installation, when admission was restricted to cards, the duties of the Powhatan Guard, stationed at the entrance, the courteous custodian and superintendent were increased daily, announcing and admitting North Carolina's guests. We were just across the border, and our people in general were deeply interested. The unfolding of the State's noble past has been a revelation to many. \* \* \* One historian of national reputation, since having his attention drawn to our exhibit, has visited the State, making a systematic study of her unpublished archives and gathering material therefrom for a prospective volume. Another one has had many photographs taken of the chief relics to appear in a work on the historic South. \* \* \* From various sections of the Union came persons who found there information of value to them personally. As an educational factor the success was complete, and it is believed that this engrossing work will greatly aid in developing the historical awakening already begun in our midst."

#### UNITED DAUGHTERS OF THE CONFEDERACY.

The history exhibit at Jamestown was confined to the periods in the history of the State prior to the War of 1812. Coming now to more recent times, we find that the North Carolina Division of the United Daughters of the Confederacy has been actively engaged in

preserving the history of the War Between the States. This organization has in North Carolina 3,500 members. Its work is historical and charitable. The society has erected in North Carolina fourteen monuments to the memory of Confederate soldiers, while others are now in process of construction. A persistent effort has been made to have the various chapters obtain historical narratives from surviving veterans, but unfortunately few only have responded. These that have been gathered have been deposited in the office of the Secretary of State until the Legislature can be made to see the wisdom of erecting a fireproof library building. Scholarships have been established at the State Normal College and at the Salem Female College, open only to daughters and granddaughters of Confederate soldiers. At the next session of the General Convention of the Daughters of the Confederacy the North Carolina Division will present to the Confederate Museum in Richmond portraits of General Robert Ransom and Captain Randolph Shotwell. They have already presented portraits of General Bryan Grimes, Major Thomas Sparrow, Colonel Zebulon B. Vance, Colonel Charles F. Fisher, General Matthew W. Ransom and General L. O'B. Branch.

#### HALL OF HISTORY.

The director of the Hall of History reports that during the year he has made special trips in the interest of his work to the Albemarle region, to the Croatan settlements and to the country of the Cherokees. During the year he has added more than one thousand objects to the collection, so that the total number of objects now in the Hall of History is 6,200. In his report the director adds the following:

"Everything is being done to collect while there is time, for so much has been lost by fires at private houses that it is felt some steps should be taken to place objects here where they can be better cared for. \* \* \* \* If the Legislature will erect an absolutely fireproof building and provide ample room, since the present Hall of History, large as it is, is nearly filled already, wonderful work can be done. \* \* \* What has been done in this State at a cost entirely nominal has cost other Commonwealths large sums, in cases where they are doing anything in this line, but it may be said of North Carolina's historical collection, as it can be said of all the other departments of her State Museum, that no State south of Washington approaches it."

#### COLLEGE HISTORICAL SOCIETIES.

We regret that we have not been able to secure reports from all the historical societies at the colleges of the State. From the North Carolina Historical Society at the University and from the Trinity College Historical Society come reports of continued activity. Both

have concerned themselves largely with the production of papers and addresses, many of which are valuable and permanent contributions to the historical literature of the State. The Trinity College Historical Society has published several of the most valuable papers read at its meetings. This society has also catalogued a large collection of books, pamphlets and manuscripts, and has installed in the college museum a case of rare first editions.

### REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR.

Finally, the commission is required "to make a biennial report of its receipts and disbursements, its work and needs, to the Governor, to be by him transmitted to the General Assembly." To this report, which is a review of our work, is appended a statement of the commission's receipts and disbursements.

As to its needs, the commission needs but one thing—room—a larger and safer depository for its collections. The present quarters of the commission are crowded. Besides, they are needed for the work of the General Assembly. They are out of the way and inaccessible. The work of the commission could be greatly extended, its collections largely increased, its usefulness expanded tenfold if it had ample and accessible quarters in a safe building. Many valuable collections could be secured if the owners were only assured that they would be deposited in a safe, fireproof building and would be properly cared for. Two such collections, worth many thousands of dollars, have been practically promised as soon as the State erects an adequately protected building for the preservation of its property.

The Historical Commission therefore endorses the memorial to the General Assembly adopted by the State Literary and Historical Association, urging the erection of a fireproof State Library building for the preservation of the State Library, the Hall of History, the State Museum and the collections of the State Historical Commission. The reasons for the erection of such a building are so fully set forth in that memorial that they need not be repeated here. The commission therefore hopes that your Excellency will think proper to approve the measure and urge it upon the attention of the next General Assembly.

### SUMMARY.

During the period covered by the foregoing report the commission has added to its collections 3,135 original manuscripts and transcripts, as follows:

The John H. Bryan Collection.....	703
The Calvin H. Wiley Collection.....	885
The Jonathan Worth Collection.....	1,307
The L. O'B. Branch Collection.....	48

The Hayes Collection (transcripts) .....	82
The Dartmouth Collection (transcripts) .....	63
Items from The Virginia Gazette .....	38
Miscellaneous transcripts .....	9

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Total ..... 3,135

As soon as practicable a calendar of these papers will be prepared and published.

#### INDEX TO EARLY NEWSPAPERS OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

The North Carolina Historical Commission has secured an index to the North Carolina items in the Colonial and Revolutionary newspapers of South Carolina, which, in the absence of North Carolina newspapers of the periods, forms a valuable source of historical information. The index embraces the following papers published at Charleston:

*The South Carolina Gazette and Country Journal*, 1732 to 1775, inclusive.

*The South Carolina and American General Gazette*, 1766 to 1772, inclusive; 1774 to 1780, inclusive.

*The Royal Gazette*, 1781, 1782.

*The City Gazette, or Daily Advertiser*, 1789, 1790.

*The State Gazette of South Carolina*, 1786, 1788.

*The Gazette of the State of South Carolina*, 1777, 1783, 1784, 1785.

*The Charleston Morning Post*, 1787.

#### HISTORICAL PICTURES.

The commission has had placed in the Hall of History, under the direction of Col. Fred A. Olds, director, the following pictures illustrating the history of North Carolina:

Three pictures of treaty with Tuscarora Indians.

Ten pictures illustrating colonial Edenton.

Three pictures illustrating colonial Wilmington.

Two pictures illustrating colonial Bath.

Two pictures of Hayes.

Seven pictures illustrating War of the Regulators.

One picture of General Robert F. Hoke.

One picture of Andrew Johnson's birth-place.

One picture of *The New Bern Gazette*, containing the Mecklenburg Resolves of May 31, 1775.

One picture of Richard Cogdell's letter relating to the above copy of *The New Bern Gazette*.

Twenty-six pictures illustrating Indian life in North Carolina. Painted by John White in 1586 and photographed from the engravings of Theodore DeBry, 1590.











